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FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE SAIGON BUREAU

AMERICAN EMBASSY SAIGON, VIETNAM

APO 143 SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

2 July 64

TO:

Chief, FBIS

FROM:

Chief, Saigon Bureau

SUBJECT: Monthly Progress Report - June 1964

I. GENERAL

The resignation of Ambassador Lodge and the appointments of General Taylor and Deputy Ambassador Johnson highlighted the month. The Saigon public appears to be impressed by the stature of the apointees, and there is no feeling locally that Lodge's départure signifies any lessening of U.S. determination to support South Vietnam.

Office movements in recent months have now left FBIS as the only non-Station component in the Embassy annex -not a wholly desirable situation, but unavoidable. More reshufflings of office space under the new Embassy leadership are probable; but it is expected that the FBIS office will remain intact.

OPERATIONS II.

Monitorial

Publishable wordage filed during the month totaled 217,000 words; 70 percent of this record high came from radio coverage. Hanoi and the Liberation Station seem to be broadcasting more original, worthwhile items than formerly -- items not transmitted by VNA in English.

A total of 135 hours of voice broadcasts weekly were being covered at the end of the month.

В. Communications -

WA 677 reporting a worldwide MINIMIZE into and out of Saigon was brought to the attention of the Embassy communications officer. He had not been informed of any restrictions on traffic, however, and did not wish

GROUP 1 Excluded from automatic downgrading end declassification

to seek advice from STARCOM lest such action serve to raise in the military mind the possibility of preempting the Embassy-FBIS circuit. Therefore the Embassy teletype unit carried on as usual.

Effective 1 July, classified and unclassified air pouches to Washington will leave Saigon four times weekly — Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, each two days in transit. The previous schedule was twice weekly, Tuesday and Friday, also two days in transit.

C. Technival

Two newly arrived receivers (military type R390A/URR) have been installed in the console. Substantially improved reception from the Laotian and Malaysian radios has been noted; effect on Hanoi and Liberation Station reception, where interference rather than low power is the problem, has been negligible.

Chief, Saigon Bureau

Attachments:

- 1. Classified Personnel Report
- 2. Foreign Personnel Report
- 3. Broadcast Coverage Report

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